

III. REMARKS

1. Claims 1-24 remain in the application. Claims 2, 3-11, 13, and 21-24 have been amended.

2. Claim 13 has been indicated as containing patentable subject matter and allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Appellants wish to express appreciation for the indication of allowable subject matter and, in response, claim 13 has been amended accordingly.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment to claim 13 is entitled to entry under the standards set forth in MPEP 1207 because the amendment adopts the Examiner suggestions and removes issues from appeal, and as such, requires only a cursory review by the examiner.

3. Claims 2, 3-11, and 21-24 have been amended to replace the words "deliver" and "delivering" with --signal-- and --signaling, -- respectively. This amendment was made to make the wording of these claims consistent with the claims from which they depend.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment to claims 2, 3-11, and 21-24 is entitled to entry under the standards set forth in MPEP 1207 because the amendment requires only a cursory review by the examiner.

4. The amendments to the claims are not limiting, are not made for reasons related to patentability, and do not raise issues of estoppel.

Appellant respectfully submits that the present amendment is entitled to entry under the standards set forth in MPEP 1207 because the amendment adopts the Examiner suggestions and removes issues from appeal, and as such, requires only a cursory review by the examiner.

5. Appellants respectfully submit that claims 1, 2, 6, 8-10, and 14-20 are not anticipated by Stevens, W. R. *TCP/IP Illustrated, The Protocols* (Addison-Wesely 2001), "Stevens," for the reasons stated in the Appeal Brief.

6. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 7, 11 and 12 are not anticipated by Amri et al. (US 5,535,199, "Amri") for the reasons stated in the Appeal Brief.

7. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 20-24 are not anticipated by Gleeson et al. (US 5,446,736, "Gleeson") for the reasons stated in the Appeal Brief.


8. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3-5 are patentable over Stevens for the reasons stated in the Appeal Brief.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A check in the amount of \$104.00 is enclosed for the additional claim fees.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph V. Gamberdell, Jr.
Reg. No. 44,695

12/30/03
Date

Perman & Green, LLP
425 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06824
(203) 259-1800
Customer No.: 2512

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450.

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